

The China Mail.

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HONGKONG, MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 1888.

日六廿月一十年亥丁

Price, \$2 PER MONTH.

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON.—F. ALGAR, 11 & 12, Clements Lane, Lombard Street, E. O. GEORGE STREET & Co., 30, Cornhill, London & GOROU, Laidlaw & Co., E. O. BATES & Co., 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

Intimations.

THE BRITISH BARQUE NARDON.

THE Undersigned being about to PURCHASE the British Barque NARDON, the transfer whereof will be effected within one month from this date hereby request all Persons having CLAIMS against the said Vessel to send Particulars of such Claims to the Undersigned on or before the 31st January, 1888.

PEN KER, Hong Kong, January 4, 1888.

ANDREW JOHNSTON, Consulting Engineer, Marine House, Queen's Road.

PLANS and ESTIMATES prepared for LAUNCHES, MACHINES, STEAM LAUNCHES, MARINE ENGINES and BOILERS, and all other kinds of Machinery. A list of Steamers FOR SALE always on hand. The Address as above. Hong Kong, January 4, 1888.

THE HONGKONG AND KOWLOON WHARF AND GODOWN COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that all VESSELS DISCHARGING BOMBAY COTTON and COTTON YARN at the Kowloon Wharves will have FREE STORAGE for 15 days from arrival, after which a Rent of 3 Cents per bale per month will be charged.

ISAAC HUGHES, Secretary, Hong Kong, November 7, 1887.

DENTISTRY. FIRST CLASS WORKMANSHIP. MODERATE FEES.

MR. WONG TAI-FONG, Surgeon Dentist, (FORMERLY ARTIFICIAL APPRENTICE AND LATER ASSISTANT TO DR. ROGERS), No. 2, DUNDRELL STREET.

CONSULTATION FREE. Discount to missionaries and families. Sole Address, 2, DUNDRELL STREET, (Next to the New Oriental Bank), Hong Kong, January 12, 1888.

HONGKONG PUBLIC SCHOOL.

THE EASTER TERM will Commence on MONDAY, the 10th Instant, at 9 a.m. New Pupils will be admitted on SATURDAY, the 14th Instant, at 10 a.m.

O. J. BATEMAN, Head Master, Hong Kong, January 5, 1888.

PEAK HOTEL, RESTAURANT AND CAFE, Situated at THE TRAMWAY TERMINUS, VICTORIA GAP.

1,250 FEET ABOVE SEA LEVEL, Commanding Fine Views of the Harbour and City, with a Southern Exposure, Warm in Winter, and a Constant Breeze in Summer.

MR. WILLIAM THOMAS begs to intimate that he has NOW OPENED the above HOTEL, and is prepared to receive on the shortest Notice, BREAKFASTS, LUNCHEONS and DINNERS, at fixed prices, and a la carte, also all kinds of REFRESHMENTS, WINES, CAKES, CONFECTIONERY, TOES, &c., served, and FOR SALE to Residents. The Cuisine will embrace all the Luxuries of the season from the North, Japan and San Francisco.

WINE, LIQUORS, BEER AND MINERAL WATERS of the Best Quality.

RETIRING ROOMS FOR LADIES AND CHILDREN.

SEVERAL COMFORTABLE BEDROOMS. Telephone No. 20. Hong Kong, January 1, 1888.

RAFFLES HOTEL, 2, Beach Road, Singapore.

MESSRS. SARKIES BROTHERS have the honour to inform their FRIENDS and PATRONS that they have OPENED the above HOTEL on the 1st of December.

The Situation is one of the best and healthiest in the town, facing the sea, and within a few minutes' walk of the Public Offices and the Square.

Great care and attention for the comfort of Boarders and Visitors have been taken in every detail, and those frequenting it will find every convenience and home comfort.

From the great experience Messrs. SARKIES BROTHERS have gained in the MANAGEMENT of the EASTERN and the QUEENSLAND HOTELS in England, and the success that has attended them, they are confident that the 'RAFFLES HOTEL' will meet a great want long felt in Singapore. The sole endeavour of the Proprietors will be to attend to the comfort of their Visitors.

TERMS MODERATE. SARKIES BROTHERS, Proprietors, 21st December, 1887.

P. & O. S. N. COMPANY.

NOTICE TO PASSENGERS.

PASSENGERS can at the present time of the year engage Berths through to Europe, via Bombay, without change of steamer or increase of fare.

E. L. WOODIN, Superintendent, 2nd December, 1887.

Business Notices.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

FOR SALE.

Smith's Glasgow Tobaccos.

SMITH'S CUT NAVY.

SMITH'S FLAKED GOLD LEAF.

SMITH'S GLASGOW MIXTURE.

SMITH'S GOLDEN BIRDSEYE. LANE, CRAWFORD & Co. Hong Kong, January 9, 1888.

W. POWELL & Co.

LADIES' and CHILDREN'S WARM CLOTHING. CASHMERE and MERINO VESTS. WOOL-LEN SHIRTS, GLOVES, CHILDREN'S GLOVES and INFANTS' WOOL CUFFS and MITTS. KNITTED WOOL VESTS and JACKETS. WOOL SHAWLS and HOODS. KNITTED GAITERS and BOOTS. WOOL LACE and HATS of SHAWLS. (T. B. & F. H. O. N. 21).

VICTORIA EXCHANGE, December 28, 1887.

ROBERT LANG & Co., Tailors, Hatters, Shirtmakers & General Outfitters, QUEEN'S ROAD (OPPOSITE HONGKONG HOTEL).

NEW WINTER GOODS.

LAMB'S WOOL and SHETLAND WOOL UNDERVESTS and PANTS, CARDIGAN JACKETS, HAND KNIT HOSE and HOSE, CASHMERE MERINO and SILK HOSE. BOOTS and SHOES from the best manufacturers. DEAB CLOTH SPATS. KID and WOOL-LINED GLOVES. TRAVELLING RUGS and SCOTCH PLAIDS. OVERLAND TRUNKS, PORTMANTEAUS and HAND-BAGS, &c.

TAILORING:—OVER-COATINGS, SUITING, AND TROUSERING in large Variety of Materials. Hong Kong, January 3, 1888.

STAG HOTEL, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, HONGKONG.

J. COOK, Proprietor. THE HOTEL IS SITUATED IN A VERY MINUTE WALK FROM THE PRINCIPAL HANDING PLACES.

GOOD ACCOMMODATION FOR VISITORS. CHARGES MODERATE. Tiffin at 1 o'clock. DINNER at 7.30.

WELL VENTILATED BILLIARD ROOM. Tiffin 50 CENTS. DINNER 75 CENTS. WINE, SPIRITS and MALT LIQUORS of the VERY BEST QUALITY ONLY. Hong Kong, April 1, 1887.

Victoria Hotel, Praya and Queen's Road Central, Hong Kong.

THIS Extensive and well-appointed Establishment, situated in one of the most central and airy positions in the Colony and commanding a splendid view of almost the entire harbour and within five minutes' walk of the principal Government Offices (including the Post Office), Banks, &c., has recently been much enlarged and improved and is now one of the principal Hotels in the place.

The ROOMS are spacious, well ventilated and have just been refurnished in a most comfortable and handsome manner, suited to the requirements of the Far East. The Accommodation and Service of every kind will be found to be of the best description. An ample and varied TABLE D'HOTE is always provided and served in the spacious, large DINING HALL.

THE HOTEL also contains handsome and comfortable Reception, Reading, Billiard and Smoking Rooms.

THE HOTEL is unsurpassed for comfort, convenience and quick service. Continental languages are spoken. Messrs. DORABEE & HING KEE, Proprietors, Hong Kong, September 16, 1885.

Intimations.

CHAS. J. GAUPP & Co., Chronometer, Watch & Clock Makers, Jewellers, Gold & Silversmiths. NAUTICAL, SCIENTIFIC and METEOROLOGICAL INSTRUMENTS. VOYAGERS' COMPASSES, BINOCULARS and TELESCOPES. RICHARDS' LIQUID and OTHER COMPASSES. ADMIRALTY & EMERALD CHARTS. NAUTICAL BOOKS.

English SILVER & ELECTRO-PLATED WARE. CHRISTIE & Co.'s ELECTRO-PLATED WARE. GOLD & SILVER JEWELLERY, in great variety.

DIAMONDS AND DIAMOND JEWELLERY. A Splendid Collection of the Latest LONDON PATTERNS, at very moderate prices. 742

NOTICE. HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY, LIMITED.

SHIPMASTERS and ENGINEERS are respectfully informed that if upon their arrival in this Harbour, NONE of the Company's FOREMEN should be at hand, Orders for REPAIRS should be sent to the Head Office, No. 14, Praya Central, will receive prompt attention.

In the Event of Complaints being found necessary, Communication with the Undersigned is requested, when immediate steps will be taken to rectify the cause of dissatisfaction.

D. GILLIES, Secretary, Hong Kong, August 25, 1888.

Entertainment.

THEATRE ROYAL, CITY HALL.

HONGKONG AMATEUR DRAMATIC CLUB.

THE SECOND PERFORMANCE OF THE SEASON, will take place.

Tuesday, the 17th January, 1888, at 9 p.m.

When will be produced SHERRIDAN'S COMEDY 'THE RIVALS.'

Tickets may be obtained from Messrs. LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., on and after Monday, the 9th January, 1888, at 9 a.m.

H. M. THOMSETT, Hon. Secretary, Hong Kong, January 4, 1888.

FOR SALE.

JULES MUMM & Co.'s CHAMPAGNE. Quarts, 820 per Case of 1 doz. Pilsener, 821 " " " 2 " Dubois Fines & de Giron & Co.'s BORDEAUX CLARETS and WHITE WINES. Baxter's Celebrated 'Barley Bro.' WHISKY, 874 per Case of 1 doz. GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co. Hong Kong, July 18, 1884.

WASHING BOOKS. (In English and Chinese.) WASHINGTON'S BOOKS, for the use of Ladies and Gentlemen, can now be had at this Office.—Price, \$1 each. CHINA MAIL OFFICE.

To Let.

ROOMS in 'COLLEGE CHAMBERS.' GODOWN in Ice House Lane, from the 1st January, at present in the occupation of Messrs. BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE.

Apply to DAVID SANBORN, SONS & Co., Hong Kong, December 3, 1887.

TO BE LET.

(With Immediate Possession.) TWO DESIRABLE RESIDENCES situated in Cause Road, West-end Terrace opposite to Rose Villas.

Apply to No. 14, CAUSE ROAD. Hong Kong, October 31, 1887.

TO BE LET. A Comfortable FOUR or SIX ROOMED HOUSE Furnished or Unfurnished in Richmond Terrace, with use of Tennis Courts.

Apply to JOHN WILLMOTT, Hong Kong Dispensary, Hong Kong, December 16, 1887.

Insurance.

NOTICE. THE MAN ON INSURANCE COMPANY (LIMITED).

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED.....\$1,000,000. THE above Company is prepared to accept of all RISKS at Current Rates on Goods, &c. Policies granted in all parts of the World payable at any of its Agencies.

WOO LIN YUEN, Secretary, HEAD OFFICE, No. 2, QUEEN'S ROAD WEST, Hong Kong, December 2, 1887.

THE LONDON ASSURANCE COMPANY, INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER OF His Majesty King George The First, A. D. 1720.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Corporation are prepared to accept of all RISKS at Current Rates.

Marine Department. Policies at current rates, payable either here, in London, or at the principal Ports of India, China and Australia.

Fire Department. Policies issued for long or short periods at current rates.

Life Department. Policies issued for sums not exceeding \$5,000 at reduced rates.

HOLIDAY, WISE & Co. Hong Kong, July 25, 1872.

QUEEN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY. THE Undersigned, Agents for the above Company, are prepared to ACCEPT RISKS against FIRE at Current Rates.

NORTON & Co., Agents, Hong Kong, July 15, 1887.

NORTH BRITISH & MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY. THE Undersigned, Agents of the above Company, are authorized to insure against FIRE at Current Rates.

GILMAN & Co., Agents, Hong Kong, January 1, 1882.

Notices to Consignees.

GLEN LINE OF STEAM PACKETS. FROM LONDON, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship Glenelg having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo by her are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the HONGKONG & KOWLOON WHARF & GODOWN COMPANY, Ltd., at Kowloon, whence delivery may be obtained.

Cargo remaining undelivered after the 13th Instant will be subject to rent. No Fire Insurance has been effected. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Agents.

Hong Kong, January 6, 1888.

FROM HAMBURG, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE S.S. Edonia, Captain HAZELLOO, having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading for countersignature by the Undersigned, and to take immediate delivery of their Goods from alongside.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless notice to the contrary be given before Noon To-day, the 6th Instant.

Any Cargo impeding the discharge will be landed into the Godowns of the Kowloon PIER and GODOWN Co. and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 12th Instant will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 12th Instant, at 10 a.m. No Fire Insurance has been effected.

SIEMSEN & Co., Agents, Hong Kong, January 5, 1888.

GLEN LINE OF STEAM PACKETS. FROM LONDON, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship Glenelg, having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo by her are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the HONGKONG & KOWLOON WHARF & GODOWN Co., Ltd., at Kowloon, whence delivery may be obtained.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless notice to the contrary be given before 4 p.m. To-day, the 6th Instant.

The departure of the French mail for Europe has been postponed till Wednesday. As, according to the new arrangement for leaving Japan, very little time is left in Hongkong, it is probable, we hear, that the present alteration may be permanent.

A count of 60 years of age, named Mak Aung, was brought before Mr. Sercombe Smith in the Police Court to-day, charged, at the instance of Inspector Quincey, with having on 23rd March 1893 unlawfully escaped from the custody of Lam Ahon, ex-convict constable. Prisoner admitted the charge. Inspector Quincey stated that on the date mentioned a report was made of the murder of a blind man. Inspector Perry and witness were investigating the case, and in connection therewith arrested the prisoner near the Happy Valley. He was handed over to the custody of Constable Lam Ahon, who was on duty at the Racecourse, the constable being told to take him to the Central Station. On his way thither prisoner cut his queue and escaped. The case was remanded for a week in order to get the evidence of the ex-convict.

An inspection parade of the Government Fire Brigade was held on the Praya behind the City Hall this afternoon. Superintendent Woodhouse, who was accompanied by Assistant Superintendent Horspool, and Mr. Brewer, Engineer to the Brigade, inspected the arrangements of the men and also the fire-extinguishing machinery and plant. There was but a small turn-out of Europeans, only eight firemen being present; and the Chinese portion of the Brigade was represented by about sixty men. After the inspection some practice took place in uncoiling and attaching reels, placing ladders &c. Steam was then got up (the time taken for this being 10 minutes) and two hose-pipes were set to work, the water being thrown over the Praya and into the harbour. There was also some 'extincteur' practice, one of these machines being discharged. Before dismissing the European firemen Superintendent Woodhouse said that he had not forwarded to the Government the petition handed to him for that purpose by the European firemen, the reason being that he himself had applied to the Government on their behalf, a short time ago. The Government had acknowledged that the remuneration given to the European firemen was small, but they found themselves unable to fix an increase at present as the estimates for 1898 had been closed. The matter, however, would probably be considered later.

The Viceroy of Szechuen reports that a tribute envoy from Nepal is on his way to Peking.

The Directors of the Shanghai Gas Co. have declared a dividend of 6 per cent. for last half year.

The Directors of the Yangtze Insurance Co., Limited, have declared a dividend of 17s. 6d., or 27 per cent. per annum, for the half year, ended 31st Dec.

The *Chengling* had the distinction of being the thirty-one thousandth British vessel which has entered at the Shanghai Customs, also being the last vessel to do so in 1887.

Two more steam-launches have just been taken by the movable railway overland from Tungchow to Peking for use in the Kunming Lake of the Summer Palace environs. In giving an account of the Peking execution, the *Shih Pao* says that the men and women selected for execution were provided by law, and were allowed to indulge in conviviality throughout the night preceding their execution.

The *Shen Pao* says that a hundred refugees are being shipped from Nanking by steamer to Shanghai, where the police have been instructed to look after them pending their settlement by the native authorities in some suitable locality.

The *Shi Pao* says that news has been received by telegraph of the destruction of a Roman Catholic chapel in the Diping prefecture of Kwangsi; eight or nine Christians were killed during the disturbance.

A serious riot occurred at Hukhan the other day and a church belonging to the Catholic Mission was burnt down. It is said that the trouble originated through the refusal of the people to sanction the building of a new church. — *Foochow Echo*.

The *N. C. Daily News* understands that Messrs. Fraser & Co. have sold an Edison's Incandescent light to the Chinese authorities. The light will be taken to the Yellow River and used so as to enable the works in repairing the breach to be carried on day and night.

The *Japan Gazette* of the 27th December says:—We learn that the great destruction of a central time for Japan will be provided from midnight of the 31st instant. From that date, we believe, the time will be supplied to all Japan from a Central Observatory established at Akashi, near Hio.

The Roman Catholic Chapel at Fuh-an Hsia in North Fuhien has been pulled down and burnt by an enraged mob, owing to the occupants having raised their voice in defiance of the objections of the *fengshui* prophets. A gunboat had already been sent to the scene, but it was too late. The Magistrate has been removed from his post.

According to the *Tsiji Shimpu*, it is stated that the Naval Department of Japan have asked the Cabinet to vote the sum of 50,000,000 yen, for the purpose of increasing the navy, the payment to be distributed over a period of five years, from 1890 to 1895. With this amount the Department, it is said, would build fifteen men-of-war and thirty torpedo boats.

The P. and O. Company have received a telegram from their agents in Egypt, stating that the Egyptian Council have decided to grant free pratique to vessels arriving from Malta. The company have, therefore, resumed communication with Malta, and passengers can now book from that place to the East without any fear of quarantine restrictions.

The *Shen Pao* says that the Mixed Court Magistrate Ts'ui has detected one of his gofers in a most extraordinary manner. He has insisted on proper punishment, notwithstanding the attempt made by the other gofers to screen their comrade.

The *Holland Trade Museum*.—Professor E. V. Halliwell lectured on 'China and the Opium' in the newly-established Trade Museum at Vienna on the 23rd ult.; Professor Lorenz V. Stein, who will be remembered in connection with his articles on Extra-territoriality in Japan, will lecture on the 7th inst. on 'Clothing in Japan'; whilst other lectures on trade matters will be given twice or thrice a month.

On the 1st Dec. there was landed from Messrs. Ramage and Argenson's shipbuilding yard, at Leith, a steel twin screw steamer, of 500 tons dead weight capacity, built to the order of the Scottish Oriental Steamship Company, and destined for their local line. The vessel, on leaving the yard, was named the *Champlain*, by Mrs. Jones, wife of the captain. Her place on the stocks will be taken up by a 300 ton steam yacht for an English nobleman.

COMMERCIAL EDUCATION.—With the object of meeting a demand for higher commercial education, the Council of King's College have accepted a proposal of the Head Master for the reorganization of the School, establishing a distinct mercantile division. In this division the subjects now recognized as specially necessary for mercantile life, such as book-keeping, mathematics, and English, will be prepared for the commercial certificate to be granted by the Oxford and Cambridge Schools Examination Board.

SABLE SKINS FOR THE IMPERIAL FAMILY.—The customary offering of sable skins for the use of the Imperial Family presented by the authorities of the three eastern provinces of Manchuria has arrived at Peking, and been sent up to the inspection of His Majesty through the Bureau of Imperial Household Affairs. We (*Shih Pao*) understand that the regions which yield these skins have been occasionally encroached upon by Russia, so that the best skins are now most difficult to obtain.

NUBAR Pasha, the Egyptian statesman whose death is announced by telegram, was born in 1825. Holding various posts previously in 1864, he became Egyptian Minister to Vienna. In 1876 he was attached to Viceroy Sait Pasha. In 1877 he was entrusted with the Regulation concerning the piercing of the Suez Canal and nine years later (1890) became Minister for Foreign Affairs, representing Egypt at the Financial Congress of Paris in 1891. He has been twice Premier of Egypt, and again on the resignation of Cheif Pasha in 1894. — *Singapore Free Press*.

FIXED ROUTES TO THE FAR EAST.—At the monthly meeting of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce it was stated that the Council had notified to all steamship owners who were members of the Chamber that a suggestion had been made under the Board of Trade 'that fixed routes should be laid down on the charts for outward and homeward bound steamers in Eastern waters in somewhat similar manner to that adopted on the Atlantic, in order to lessen the risk of collision at sea, and that the Council would be glad to furnish any observations they had to make on the subject.

The Hangchow Provincial Judge has recently undergone a singular experience. Having sent for the virtuous heroine of a recent case in which the widow rejected a second marriage, he was surprised to find that she had been secretly married by her own wish to a young man, and that she had been living with him for some time. The judge was so much surprised that he ordered her to be brought before him, and when she appeared, he found her to be a very different person from the one who had been before him. He was so much surprised that he ordered her to be brought before him, and when she appeared, he found her to be a very different person from the one who had been before him.

The *Chinking* Correspondent of the *Mercury* writes under the date of Jan. 4 as follows:—A heavy gale set in at noon yesterday, blowing from the north-west, doing considerable damage to the small craft. A foreign house-boat, which was moored alongside Mr. Geo. McHain's wharf, was totally wrecked, as well as a number of native boats. The wind blew with great violence up till 4 p.m., when it subsided. H.B.M.'s corvette *Sapphire* and gunboat *Mercury* were in the height of the gale, and both boats bore the brunt of the wind. The *Sapphire* arrived in the anchorage above Carlo Hui. They are to remain here for two days, and will then proceed up to Wu-hu, and upon their return will remain at this port for a week.

FUNDS FOR THE YELLOW RIVER.—The sum of £10,000, which has been appropriated by Imperial Decree to be devoted to the reclamation and regulation of the Yellow River, has been raised, and we (*Shih Pao*) hear is being forwarded to Honan. Of this amount £10,000 was furnished by the Board of Revenue out of the funds of the Imperial Treasury, while the balance was raised by the sale of bonds and other means. This money will be entrusted to the hands of the Viceroy and Governor of Honan, who will use it for reclaiming and controlling the Yellow River. When the work is completed, they will be required to submit an account of all expenditures actually incurred, for examination by the Board of Revenue.

The *Singapore Free Press* says:—An incident that might have been attended with very serious results happened to Mr. Pickering the other morning. Having gone to his dressing table and partially opened a drawer to take out a comb and brush, he saw something moving. On opening the drawer a little more, he saw that it was a large snake coiled up, ready to spring. There were two mongoose in a cage under the house, and one of these was brought up and put in the drawer, but he refused to fight the snake and sprang out of the drawer and scamped off. After some little trouble in getting the mongoose out of the drawer, it was killed by the boys, and on being examined proved to be a cobra nearly six feet long. It has been preserved and sent to Mr. Davidson, the Curator of the Museum.

PROGRESS IN FORMOSA.—The S.S. *Fecheu* brought Mr. Spence from Tamsui, and Mr. Kolding, the Danish electrician and engineer who has successfully carried out a great deal of telegraph work in China. The cable from Anping (Formosa) to the Pescadore has been picked up again, recently, by the *Fecheu*, and relaid satisfactorily. It is a great pity it has not been extended to Amoy from the Pescadore. The land telegraph line from Taipei to Tamsui is about half finished now; it is being carried on under native superintendence, and the Chinese engineer, having assisted Kolding when the latter gentleman put up the line between Taipei and Keelung. The building of the railway between the two last-mentioned places is being pushed forward at fairly good speed. — *Changhai Mercury*.

THREATS OF NATIVE OUTRAGES IN KRUZOVON.—The *Shih Pao* of the 20th ult. reports that H. E. Monsiour Lemaire, French Minister at Peking, has recently received telegraphic advice from the Catholic Bishop at Kruzon, to the effect that the Chinese converts were having serious difficulties with the natives. The latter resorted to mob violence; and besides demolishing the chapel killed and wounded eight of nine of the converts. Upon receipt of this intelligence, the French Minister at once submitted a statement of the case to the authorities at the (Tung) Yamen, requesting them to deal with the matter.

The *Singapore Free Press* says:—The N. I. steamer *Celbes* which arrived at Singapore on the 20th ult. from Amoy with 357 deck passengers had two cases of small-pox on board. No notification of the disease was given to the proper authorities till the steamer had been alongside, and had discharged her passengers. When the Master Attendant was informed, he immediately ordered the vessel into quarantine where she is now lying. A seizure of contraband chandoo to the value of £1,000 was also made on board. Information had been received by the Opium Farm here regarding the opinion, but when the officers came on board they found that the men had already been arrested by the Captain. The case came up before Mr. Penney next morning, but was postponed owing to the absence of Captain Joon, who is in quarantine with his vessel. The departure of the *Celbes* is indefinitely deferred.

Tan Tientsin correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News* writes:—On Thursday, 18th of December, H.E. the Viceroy Li Hung-chang, accompanied by the Taoist Chiao-fu, the Customs Taoist at Tientsin, and a large number of civil and military mandarins, paid a visit to the iron bridge over the river, which was being constructed by the French Syndicate. The bridge, which was built in France by the well-known firm of Fives Lille & Co., consists of a single arch of 120 feet clear span, with a rise of 16 feet, resting on two massive abutments, and carrying a macadamised roadway with wooden footpaths. The boldness of the design and the elegance and solidity of the work do the greatest credit to the builders, and produced a most favourable impression on the Viceroy and all his suite. The French Minister of the Viceroy's Yamen, the construction of another iron bridge, arranged to open and shut mechanically, as the navigation requires. It is stated that it will be completed in January. These two bridges, of a system and of dimensions hitherto unknown in China, are in all respects interesting specimens of French industries.

THE OCEAN YACHT RACE.

The fact that the race for the Douglas Challenge Cup had been fixed for Saturday last did not deter the sun from getting up at the hour fixed for rising on 7th January in this longitude; and the occupants of the three yachts at anchor at Castle Peak Bay, with something of the same modesty that distinguished the well-known Roster in the 'Mill on the Floss', were somewhat inclined to the opinion that Sol had risen chiefly with the object of seeing them start to contend once more over the water. The three yachts at anchor at Castle Peak Bay, with something of the same modesty that distinguished the well-known Roster in the 'Mill on the Floss', were somewhat inclined to the opinion that Sol had risen chiefly with the object of seeing them start to contend once more over the water. The three yachts at anchor at Castle Peak Bay, with something of the same modesty that distinguished the well-known Roster in the 'Mill on the Floss', were somewhat inclined to the opinion that Sol had risen chiefly with the object of seeing them start to contend once more over the water.

During the run-down the *Noemi* improved the occasion, and placed a considerable distance between herself and the other two before reaching the Maeso Mark Boat, which she passed at 3.45, followed by the *Kathleen* at 4.25, and *Ariel* at 7.26. The *Noemi* carried light and varying winds up to the White Rocks, which she passed for the second time at 7.45. About 10 miles later a dead calm and strong head wind necessitated anchoring for about three hours. With light winds the Maeso Mark Boat was reached and passed at 5.14, after which succeeded a series of Sabbath calms, followed by a slight westerly wind that helped the *Noemi* to the West end of Lantau.

Kathleen was passed about mid-way between Maeso and Lantau, making for the Mark Boat, which she passed at 4.47 p.m. The *Ariel* had gone in search of Southern China, and was seen as a faint speck in the far distance South of Lantau. A good breeze sprang up and she and the *Noemi* for themselves in company at a few miles distance from Castle Peak, both also hauled with strong easterly wind which quickly carried the *Noemi* ahead of the smaller boat. The wind increased to a spanking breeze (so called by sailors because it is often felt behind as they are else), enabling the *Noemi* to carry her two ancient mariners past the Maeso Mark Boat at 2.38.10, and thus ended the D. C. Race as seen by.

THE MAN AT THE PEAK.

ANOTHER PIRACY CASE.

In the Police Court to-day, before Mr. Woodhouse, three men, named Liu Ai, Mao Akau, and Lam Afuk, were charged, at the instance of Sergeant Butlin of the Stanley district, with piracy on the high seas. It was alleged that the pirates attacked and captured two junks, one on the 28th and another on the 30th December last.

Wong Atung, who was the first witness examined, said:—On the 28th December my junk was attacked by ten men in a boat. They fired several shots at us from rifles and called to us to stop. The men then came on board and drove myself and my crew into one

of the hold and took possession of the junk. The pirates were armed with swords, knives and rifles. When we were put down in the hold they struck us on the legs and shoulders with their swords. We were kept for two days in the hold, during which time we had only one meal a day. None of the rifle shots hit our junk. They searched each of us before putting us below. My purse was taken away, with five taels of silver in it. They also took about eleven dollars' worth of clothing from us while we were in the hold. Two jackets were taken from me. I would know the men who searched me if I saw them again. The prisoners are now being taken away from my junk and put on board the 30th. I heard firing from my junk and heard the men from the other pirate boat being taken on board my junk and battered down in one of the holds. The place where we were attacked is about 20 miles from Hongkong.

The third witness said he and the other two were going to take water in a small punt and heard cries of 'save life' on board the witness's junk. They went on board to see what was wrong, and afterwards the police came on board and arrested them.

Wong Afuk, a seaman on board the *Ching Hing* junk, said he recognized the prisoners as three of the men who searched him and the others of his crew.

Tank Afuk, master of the *Sun Tung* junk, said—On the 30th December my junk, which had a cargo of 95 piculs sugar, which we were taking to Kowloon, was attacked by pirates when off Fung Ching Chow, at 8 a.m. The cargo was worth \$320. Our crew consisted of five, including myself, and we had two passengers. The boat in which the pirates were was one used in carrying bricks and tiles. The pirates fired at us with rifles and called to us to stop. I did not stop at once, but tried to escape. The pirate boat gained on me, and I saw that I had to stop. I saw three men on board, and they were armed with pistols and swords, and put me, along with the crew and passengers, into the after-hold of my junk. At 2 p.m. on the same day they transferred us to the hold of the brick junk, and sailed away with my junk and all its cargo. The witness said he saw the pirates put into the after-hold of his junk five of the seven men who boarded his junk. The prisoners are three of them. They struck us with their swords and searched our persons, but took nothing. We remained in the hold of the brick junk until 7 p.m. The witness said he saw the pirates take a side for not stopping. The first witness said he saw the pirates take a side for not stopping. The first witness said he saw the pirates take a side for not stopping. The first witness said he saw the pirates take a side for not stopping.

Cheung A fat, a trader who was a passenger on the junk, said he was a passenger on the junk, and he saw the pirates take a side for not stopping. The first witness said he saw the pirates take a side for not stopping. The first witness said he saw the pirates take a side for not stopping. The first witness said he saw the pirates take a side for not stopping.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE SPREAD OF SMALL POX.—A SUGGESTION.
To the Editor of the 'CHINA MAIL'.
Jan. 9th, 1898.

SIR,—Allow me to suggest to the Government, through the medium of your valuable journal, that now that the small-pox is gradually assuming the form of an epidemic in the Colony, some measures should be adopted to disintegrate the air, such as burning sulphur, burning incense, &c., in the localities most affected. This measure, though it may be a little expensive, but if the Government issue an order allowing fire crackers to be burned throughout the Colony during the day, and not a few Chinese will avail themselves of the opportunity to fire an extra bundle, owing to their composition, they will be a good disinfectant, and should be allowed to be burnt in the places where an infectious disease is known to be in existence.—Yours faithfully,
A.

THE RECENT FIRES AT FOOCHEW.

The *Shanghai Mercury* contains the following telegrams about the recent fires at Foochow:—

Foochow, 8.15 a.m. Jan. 5th, 1898.—The China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company's premises and Messrs F. H. England & Co.'s premises have been totally destroyed by fire. Messrs Adamson, Bell & Co.'s premises are partly destroyed. The fire has been subdued. [From what we can gather from other sources, the fire broke out in Messrs Adamson, Bell & Co.'s premises. The O. M. S. N. Co.'s premises were insured for \$400,000, and the books of the company were saved.]

The same afternoon Mr. Phipps received the following telegram:—'Large Chinese property destroyed; your bungalow narrow escape; cook-room burnt.' From this we gather the meaning of our telegram is as follows:—

Another large fire. 400 houses burnt. The Hongkong Bank, Messrs Phipps, Phipps & Co. and Walkinslaw's premises had a narrow escape. The *N. C. Daily News* of 6th inst. writes:—Telegrams were received yesterday announcing the occurrence of a fire in Foochow, in the foreign settlement, happily an unusual event. The premises of which the lower part were occupied by the Merchants' S. N. Co. at office, and the upper part by Messrs F. H. England and Co., were completely destroyed, while the office and tea-room next door, occupied by Messrs Adamson, Bell & Co., were also destroyed, that firm losing all their books, papers, and tea masters. The loss is believed to be entirely covered by insurance, chiefly in home offices.

TRADE AT TIENTSIN.

Although our export season was prolonged to a later date than usual, the Chinese dealers in strawbraid, wool, feathers, hides, etc., find themselves in possession of large quantities of sale until the spring comes. If our foreign traders only would act with prudence, and we may say propriety, considering the evil repute of the port in consequence of the Chinese fraudulent system that has been tolerated so long, the chances are favorably calculated for a thorough reform of the trade. The time is especially propitious, as Baron von Ketteler, of the German Consulate, by his unaided exertions—his colleagues being more perfunctory—obtained a stringent proclamation from the Chinese authorities, strongly denouncing the malpractices which have marred the trade in strawbraid, etc. Of the stocks of strawbraid nearly all the parcels are mixed and irregular. Even the best do not contain correct lengths. The camels wool, in nearly all

cases, is loaded with sand and dirt to about 25 per cent. weight. This fraudulent mixture is less than usual, but if the traders were honest there would be no addition of any dirt whatever to increase weight. The sheep's wool, too, is all foul, and requires much sifting and cleaning before it can be exported. The trade in sheep's wool might be much larger than it is, but the Mongolian flocks are especially suitable for carpet making.

The future of the Tientsin export trade, therefore, rests with the foreign merchants. If they should, in common understanding, discourage the fraudulent methods of the Chinese dealers, and insist on regular straight trade, the growth of the foreign trade would be great, and more frequently than not, unprofitable to the merchants engaged in it. One of the chief hindrances to reforming the Tientsin trade will be found to exist in the complicity of the port, which for utter badness cannot be described. The conspirators here are not agents or servants, but contractors and partners, and by their combinations, mostly for despoiling those unhappy Egyptians their masters or employers, the foreigner struggles hard for existence, and the complicity levies regular plunder on all business small and great. The profits of the confiscated goods are enormous, and excite astonishment. That of a low class connoisseur, raised by his confiding foreign master to some position of trust, by squeezing diligently during five or six years, amassing Tls. 150,000! of another man, who in a brief time, at the expense of his employers, made Tls. 100,000! of several others, who have made Tls. 50,000! and so on. The conspirators system of this port is incredibly bad, and foreigners should band together to overthrow it, as it is undignified and impudent robbery, in fact.—*Chinese Times*.

BANKS AND RAILWAYS FOR CHINA.

The *Shanghai Courier's* correspondent writes from Peking under date 19th Dec. to the effect that since the reported suspension of negotiations with the Philadelphia Syndicate for the subject of the establishment of a Chinese-American Bank, the representatives of various other Syndicates in the North put their heads together and arranged an amalgamation under the title of 'The Tientsin Syndicate', with Messrs Jardine, Matheson and Co. as general managers, and the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank and the Chartered Bank as the banks of the Syndicate. The object is the establishment of an Associated National Bank, with Mr. A. Michie as manager in Peking, and Mr. J. G. Dunn as manager in Tientsin. In the world of changes we never can tell what may happen, but we regard this news as a little too thin, so far as the great question of the establishment of a Chinese-American Bank is concerned. The amalgamation of the Syndicates is good in principle, but can it work in practice? His Excellency Chow-fu, late Customs' Tao-tai in Tientsin, one of the negotiators with Count Mikiewicz, was in Peking and also was Mr. A. Michie, and it is reported to us that the scheme for the proposed Associated National Bank had not been favorably entertained, but that a loan had recently been settled for the Household Treasury Department for Tls. 800,000 with the Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris. Mr. A. Michie being the agent.

Negotiations were said to be pending for a railway from Tungchow to Tientsin, the capital for which we are told, has been offered by Messrs Jardine, Matheson & Co., at 5 per cent, with all material supplied by them, and the loan to be repaid within thirty years.

It is also represented to us that the Yellow River repairs and the Amoy Gold Mines Loans have been secured by the French Syndicate, and the Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris.

Peking.

The old Pei-tang Cathedral was evacuated by the Lazarist Mission on the 14th, and the property handed over by Bishop Tagliani to the Imperial Government. The buildings of the new Pei-tang are sufficiently advanced to accommodate the personnel of the mission. The Cathedral itself is still in a backward state, but Cathedral necessarily takes long in building, but the chapel of the Sisters of St. Vincent de Paul has been completed some time, and is sufficient to supply the wants of the congregation until the completion of the more important edifices.

The Emperor and Empress Dowager paid a second visit to the Seventh Prince on Saturday, the 17th. On both occasions the Emperor rode on horseback. We regret to have to record the first death which has taken place in the foreign community in Peking for the last two or three years. The youngest son of Mr. Gilmore, the well-known missionary to the Mongols, died on Friday, the 16th.—*Chinese Times*.

The Correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News* says:—The birthday of the Marquis Tsiang occurred on the 16th, and many Chinese and foreign friends called to offer their congratulations. The Marquis and his family received many of the ladies of Peking on the following day. Dinner parties and invitations to dinner parties, preparations for the Christmas festivities and Christmas trees, for the Chinese Church service on Christmas day, and the Marquis and his family received many of the ladies of Peking on the following day.

The Emperor and Empress Dowager paid their second visit to the 7th Prince. He is somewhat better although still seriously ill. There is every hope, however, that he will ultimately be restored to health. Shan Ching, the newly appointed Tartar-General at Foochow, saw the Prince a few days ago. There is some talk of a little railway about to be built round the Lake Kwen-ming, at the Summer Palace, or from the West gate by the Southern city to the Hills.

Lordship spoke in strong condemnation of the policy of protection. He stated that the coming season would be essentially one for measures affecting the British Empire, and would not be wholly devoted to the consideration of the affairs of Ireland.

ANOTHER TRIP TO EGYPT.—Mr. John Hooper, M.P. for the south-east division of County Cork, who was arrested on the 10th for publishing reports of meetings of the National League, has been sentenced to one month's imprisonment.

OSMAN DIGNA AGAIN.—It is reported that Osman Digna is at Handoub with a large force.

THE NEW ARMY WARRANT.—London, Dec. 22nd.—The New Army warrant which comes into force on January 1st, contains a great number of changes, but chiefly of minor importance.

THE NEW COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF IN EGYPT.—Major-General Dornier, who succeeds Lieutenant-General Stephenson in Command of the British force in Egypt, started for Cairo on Friday, attended by Colonel Rhodes.

ARRESTS IN IRELAND.—London, December 17.—David Sheehy, who was arrested on the 16th for sedition, has been sentenced to three months' imprisonment. He was, however, released on bail pending the result of an appeal, but was re-arrested some days afterwards for sedition language and inciting people to resist the law at Clonmel. Sheehy was conveyed to Clonmel in the custody of the Police.

AUSTRIAN PREPARATIONS.—Vienna, December 18.—A special meeting of the Council of Ministers was held, and after some deliberation, it was decided that twenty millions of florins should be devoted to purchase equipments and for putting troops in Galicia. It was also decided to make no increase in the forces at present guarding the frontier, and a further concentration of Russian troops took place.

THE EX-EMIR OF EGYPT.—Isma'il Pasha, ex-Khedive of Egypt, has been secured permission to reside in Constantinople.

THE LONDON BANK DEFEATCATIONS.—Kew, Dec. 14th.—Nothing is known for certain about the defections in the London Bank to date. Mr. Grant is seriously ill and unable to give any satisfactory statement. The deficiency in the reserve fund of £75,000 is admitted; and there are said to be serious grounds for believing that the whole community, both European and native, for this end to a long and honorable career.

(From the London & China Express of Dec. 2.)
A report has been made to the Admiralty with reference to some results carried out on board H.M.S. *Handy* at Spithead with the new 36-pounder quick-firing gun, from which great gains are expected. Twenty-two rounds were fired in two minutes and a-half, and it is considered that the weapon can be loaded and aimed almost as quickly as a 6-pounder. Seven-pounders are now being replaced by the scheme of coast defence which is being elaborated by the Naval Intelligence Department is nearly completed, and that the expense will be provided for in next year's estimates. A kind of coast service militia will be formed from the fishermen and boatmen, sufficient to man the coast batteries being paid to by high pay and bounties being paid to by the Admiralty. The old gunboats which have hitherto done service as armed points as drill ships will be broken up, and the gun-drill carried out at shore batteries. This is itself will effect considerable economy, and will go a long way towards paying the expenses of the new force. Submarine mines will be the work of the Royal Engineers, but the men of the coast defence brigades will be carefully trained in torpedo boat service.

Although the Admiralty have not yet officially declared the gunboat *Wasp* to be missing, there is authority for stating that they have decided on issuing the pensions to the widows of the crew, and that the crew of the vessel, and that the pension list are now being prepared, thus leaving no doubt that their bodies have practically given up all hope of hearing of the vessel again.

The official order has now been issued for four first-class torpedo vessels attached to the First Division of the Mediterranean Reserve to be fitted out for service at Hong Kong. These vessels are boats which were recently acquired by the Admiralty.

The Chinese Minister, Li Tai-jun, with his secretaries, Viscount Li and Mr. Fung Yee, and accompanied by Sir Halliday Macartney, C.M.G., proceeded to Windsor from Fiddington by the 1.15 p.m. train on the 29th ult. On arriving at Windsor the Chinese Minister and his secretaries were received by Sir Henry Holland, and taken to the Castle in Royal carriages, and were subsequently entertained to luncheon. The presence of the Chinese Minister at Windsor is a very important event, as it is the first time since the late Emperor's death that a Chinese Minister has been in England.

It is only a short time since that we referred to the possibility that Sir Francis Plunkett would not return to Japan, partly because treaty revision negotiations will not be renewed for some time, but more particularly on account of the health of Lady Plunkett, which was never good in Tokyo. Sir Francis's health, however, is now better, and he is expected to return to Japan. The British Minister, Sir F. R. Plunkett, is now in London, and is expected to return to Japan.

Mr. Carey's account of his courageous exploit in Central Africa, and his very satisfactory in some respects. He does not (as is said), might have been expected to agree with General Prejevalsky respecting the nature of the Chinese administration in Turkistan. It is not the tyrannical, hateful, and hated Government that the Russian General represented. On the contrary, Chinese policy towards the Muscovites is growing conciliatory; their rule is not a harsh one; complete religious toleration is maintained; the rigors of Chinese civil

law and procedure are modified, crime is repressed, and in ordinary times life and property are as secure under Chinese rule in Turkistan as in British India. This is no small triumph of government. General Prejevalsky said the Chinese were hated and despised by the people; Mr. Carey's account, however, shows that the Englishmen in India some years ago, more condones in fact in them, than in the Muscovite officials, and, on the whole, that although the latter have the advantage of a good example around them. This is the first independent testimony which we have had respecting the administration of Chinese Turkistan, and on the whole it is exceedingly satisfactory to those who desire to see Chinese rule there permanent. As we pointed out at the time, General Prejevalsky's statements are not unbiased; he is an expert member of the military party in Russia, which still sticks over the restoration of Kuldja, and which looks on a campaign in Chinese Turkistan as one of the possibilities of the future.

Sir Geo. Stephen, President of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, has arrived in London. He will arrange for the building of three new steamers for the line of over 4,000 tons each, and the company of close on 18 knots. He will also arrange to obtain a further subsidy from the English Government.

Mr. Kien-chang and suite left the Langham Hotel, where they had stayed in London, on the 1st inst., for the Continent, en route to China. They proceeded first to Paris.

The petition from Hongkong, re the new Public Health Act, has not yet been received at the Colonial office, and consequently no decision has yet been taken.

There is no truth in the report from Japan that Viscount Kawase, the Minister to England, is about to return home shortly.

Quotations.

HONGKONG, January 9.	
OPIMUM—New Patna, cash, 480/85	
" Old " cash, 480/85	
" New Malwa, cash, 510	
" Allowance, Tael, 510	
" Old Malwa, cash, 535/50	
" Allowance, Tael, 540	
" Persian, Oily, cash, 600/40	
" 30 day sight, 600/40	
" Persian, Paper, 600/40	
" Allowance, Tael, 600/40	
Exchange.	
HONGKONG, January 9.	
Bank, Wire, 3/1	

